



NH Environmental Health Tracking Program

Bridging the Information Gap



WHO WE ARE

The NH Environmental Health Tracking Program is a collaborative effort between the NH Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the Department of Environmental Services (DES). The program is located in the Bureau of Disease Control and Health Statistics within the Division of Public Health Services (DPHS).

OUR MISSION

To create a state-based unified system for environmental and health data, measure and reduce the burden of environmental illness, provide data to decision makers and citizens, and prioritize health issues of concern to New Hampshire.

OUR VISION

For New Hampshire to become a state where information on environmental health and illness is available to all citizens in a rapid, simple, and high quality format and where people enjoy a high level of environmental wellness due to clean air, clean water, healthy buildings, and safe food.

PROGRAM STAFF

Matthew Cahillane
Program Manager, DPHS

Laura Holmes
Environmental Health Liaison,
DPHS

Megan Tehan
Epidemiologist, DPHS

Angela Sliva
Secretary, DPHS

Rick Rumba
Environmental Health Liaison, DES

Vince Perelli
Environmental Health Liaison, DES

John Colby
Epidemiologist, DES



GET THE FACTS!

Immunization Information for Solid Waste Operators

Solid waste operators are exposed to a range of potentially hazardous situations that may affect their health. These include exposure to certain chemicals (flammable, corrosive, irritants, sensitizers, carcinogens, and toxics), biological agents (bloodborne pathogens, vermin, allergens), physical factors (ergonomics, heat/cold stress), and workplace accidents.

Precautions against these hazards include proper protective and reflective clothing, universal precautions to prevent contact with blood or other body fluids, proper cleanup, hazard identification, good housekeeping, following ergonomic recommendations, and communication.

Despite concerns regarding exposure to certain communicable diseases, sanitation and sewage workers do not appear to be at greater risk for hepatitis B, Hepatitis A, or polio than the general population and do not require vaccines for those diseases. Routine use of other immunizing agents such as typhoid vaccine or immune globulins also is not recommended. Vaccinations recommended for adults are: Tetanus/Diphtheria, every 10 years, and influenza, annually for anyone over the age of 50. For more information on recommended adult vaccinations, go to www.cdc.gov/nip/recs/adult-schedule.htm or contact a Public Health Nurse at the DPHS Immunization Program, (603) 271-4482.

For More Information:

Stephen Beyer, DES, Occupational Health Program
(603) 271-2024, sbeyer@des.state.nh.us

Donald Maurer, DES, Waste Management Program
(603) 271-2928, dmaurer@des.state.nh.us

Technical Resources:

Solid Waste Association of America (SWANA), www.swana.org

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), www.osha.gov

Centers for Disease Control and Protection, www.cdc.gov

Immunization Action Coalition, www.immunize.org

This Fact Sheet was produced by the NH Environmental Health Tracking Program, Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health Services, Bureau of Disease Control and Health Statistics, 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03301-6527
Phone: 603.271.4988 ~ fax: 603.271.0545 E-mail: AMsliva@dhhs.state.nh.us